We're doing it again! The Rhode Island Division of Agriculture, RIDEM will be hosting two more obsolete pesticide collection events. The program, called the Obsolete Pesticide Collection Program (OPCP) provides farmers and other commercial entities with a no cost alterative to dispose of obsolete pesticides.

Last time I said "This program is a "no questions asked" event--any pesticide products may be disposed of-- whether it's simply a bottle of dried out insecticide or that pressurized canister of agent orange you have stashed under the barn; all will be accepted." We held true to our word and for example did receive Agent Orange, as well as unopened cases of gallon glass jugs of chlordane, and some items better left unmentioned

The next two collections – the first to be held April 23rd at the DOT facility located at 439 Tower Hill Road in North Kingstown, and the second to be held April 24th at the DOT facility located at 122 Wyatt Road in Middletown will be conducted by contractor Triumvirate Environmental from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

During the program's pilot year in 2013, the emphasis was on collecting materials from Rhode Island's Farming community. Although the state's farmers are just as welcome, this year's collections are open to **ALL COMMERCIAL APPLICATORS**. Information will be made available via letters, press releases and other means of public outreach explaining the program, including the dates and locations of the collection events. Additional information on how to package and safely transport the pesticides will also be made available. Once onsite, the materials will be collected by Triumvirate Environmental who will then sort, pack and transport the materials for disposal.

---- Howard Cook, Pesticide program supervisor